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TWENTY-SIX UNEDITED LETTERS FROM THOMAS
WARTON TO JONATHAN TOUP, JOHN PRICE, GEORGE
STEEVENS, ISAAC REED, WILLIAM MAVOR, AND ED-
MOND MALONE.

In turning over material for a new life of Warton, the writer has collected twenty-six unpublished letters¹ from Warton to various other scholars, which are valuable for the glimpse they give into the workshop of an eighteenth century scholar. They show the wide range of knowledge and interest of their writer in an age when such knowledge was not to be easily obtained from histories of literature and conveniently accessible reprints, and such interest was rather the exception than the rule among indolent, well-fed Oxford dons. They help also to defend Warton's reputation for scholarship, which has suffered somewhat from the slights and condescensions of later scholars² who have overlooked the difficulties under which the first historian of English poetry worked. Warton's was a day when, if early editions of 'Venus and Adonis' were still sometimes to be met with in out of the way shops together with red herring and old iron, many of such treasures were inaccessible in private libraries; when public libraries were virtually uncatalogued and the great storehouse of such material, the British Museum, was only in its infancy. In such an age there was great need of literary coöperation; then frequently one learned through his friends of the existence and whereabouts of the materials he needed, and too often had to depend upon their descriptions and transcripts, or, under favourable circumstances, the loan of their books, for the basis of much of his work. Many of Warton's letters are records of such interchange of hints and bits of information. The originals of these letters are in the Bodleian and British Museum libraries; the first ten are in the Bodleian in various collections, the rest in the British Museum, Additional MSS. No. 30375.

¹ They were apparently not used by Sir Sidney Lee in his life of Warton for the Dictionary of National Biography.

² Hazlitt's preface to his edition of Warton's history is the most striking example of this attitude, from which others have taken their cue.

Practically the whole of Warton's life was spent at Trinity College, where he took the usual degrees, including the divinity degree, and became first tutor and then fellow, but where he devoted a large part of his time to literary pursuits. He is best known for his rehabilitation of Spenser¹ by a new critical method, his representation of a large part of early English literature in his *History*², and his scholarly and delightful edition of Milton's shorter poems³. These were the great achievements of a busy literary life in which larger plans were projected but only partly executed, and which was filled also with a multiplicity of minor works of a wide range of subject, classical, antiquarian, architectural, as well as purely literary.

Warton was elected professor of poetry at Oxford in 1757 and held the position for the usual term of ten years. During that time he devoted himself to classical poetry to the neglect of English literature. The most substantial outgrowth of his poetry professorship was his edition of his favourite classical poet, Theocritus, published at the Clarendon Press in 1770. To this work Jonathan Toup, a classical scholar whose ability Warton valued highly, contributed an 'Epistola'⁴ and a number of notes. Warton seems to have amply repaid Toup for his help with 'Theocritus' by seeing his edition of Longinus⁵ through the press, no slight service to render the isolated and somewhat exacting scholar, as the third letter to him indicates. The three letters which follow bear no address, but they were certainly written to Toup.⁶ The reverse of each page is covered with scribbled notes in Greek and Latin, apparently Warton's notes.

Clar. Pr. C. 14, fol. 162.

Dear Sir

I have received the Note, which is very curious and ingenious. If you please, as we are not yet got to the *Dioscuri*, I will insert it in its proper place,

¹ In the 'Observations on the Faerie Queen' 1754, second edition, two volumes, 1762.

² 'The History of English Poetry from the Close of the Eleventh Century to the Commencement of the Eighteenth Century.' 3 vols., 1774, 1778, 1781.

³ 'Poems upon Several Occasions . . . by John Milton,' 1785, second edition 'with many alterations, and large additions,' 1791.

⁴ 'Epistola Joannis Toupii de Syracusiis, ejusdem addenda in Theocritum, necnon collationes quindecim codicum,' title page.

⁵ Toup's edition of Longinus appeared in 1778.

⁶ Four letters from Toup to Warton, also concerning the 'Theocritus' and the

with due Acknowledgement as coming from you; as I have all along done with those *detached* Notes you have sent me, not belonging to the Epistola.

I shall be extremely glad to hear from you as often as possible, & am, Dear Sir,

With great Truth, yrs. very sincerely,

Oxon, Mar. 30, 1768.

T. WARTON.

Clar. Pr. C. 13, fol. 109.

Dear Sir

I will take care to make the alterations you mention. I am obliged to you greatly for the Emendations of the Scholiast. We are now printing the Notes of the XVth Idyllium; and as no sort of Interruption will intervene, the Work will be ready for Publication by or before Christmas next.¹ As (I think) I told you before, your Epistola is to succeed my Body of Notes. The World is in great Expectation of your Longinus; & I should be glad if you could inform me, when we are likely to be favoured with so valuable an accession to Grecian Literature. Perhaps you know that we are going to print at the University Press Xenophon's Hellenica² on Hutchinson's³ size & Plan.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yr. most affectionate Servant,

Trin. Coll. Oxon,
May 2, 1768.

T. WARTON.

Cl. Pr. 13, 83.

Dear Sir

In placing Rhunhinius's Notes *first*, we have acted according to your own Directions in a Letter which I inclose. If you mean to alter your first Design specified in this Letter, and to place your *own* Notes after the Text, two or three Sheets (now worked off) must be cancelled. I have stopped the Press till I hear from you on this Particular. The Cancelling will be attended with some little Expense & Delay; but if you chose to have it done, I will propose it to the Board. I am, Dear Sir,

Your most affectionate

Trin. Coll. Feb. 4, 1777.

humble servt

P. S. Please to return the Inclosed.

T. WARTON.

One of the closest of Warton's Oxford friends was John Price, the Bodleian Librarian. Price was very useful in transcribing

'Longinus' were published in Wooll's Memoirs of Joseph Warton, 1806, pp. 318, 319, 364, 377.

¹ It did not appear, however, until 1770.

² I can discover no such publication from the University Press, and am inclined to think it never appeared.

³ Thomas Hutchinson edited Xenophon's 'Cyropedia' in 1727 (repr. 1765) and 'Anabasis' in 1735 (repr. 1785) Bibl. Script. Classic. Englemann-Preuss.

manuscript and helping with research for the History of Poetry, as well as in admitting him 'behind the scenes'¹ when the library was closed; yet he felt himself greatly honoured by Warton's friendship, and removed from his own college, Jesus, to Trinity to be near him. He seems to have enjoyed a considerable degree of Warton's confidence; he was in frequent correspondence with him during Warton's summer tours and vacations at Winchester;² his name was the last word spoken by Warton. After his death, although Price could never sufficiently control his feelings to give much information about his friend's life, he put into the hands of Mant,³ Warton's biographer, a collection of the letters he had received from him. Mant printed parts of eight of these, the earliest of which he says was dated 1774, the last 1782. These letters have now been lost, but an earlier one to Price, dated 1773, was acquired for the Bodleian in 1895. This letter, written at Winchester, is, like those previously published, full of Warton's good-humoured interest in the lighter aspects of academic life, as well as of details of his antiquarian research for his history.

Auto. fol. 5 d. 4.

Dear Price,

What with Turtle-eating, Claret drinking, &c., &c., I was so dissipated & hurried when I left Oxford, that I had not time to call upon you, nor to do many other things which I ought to have attended to, before I came away. I am now recollecting my scattered Thoughts, & sitting down to complete the first volume of the *History of English Poetry*, which is to be published before next Christmas.⁴ Humphreys⁵ is well; and if any thing can be made of him Huntingford⁶ will do it, for he takes very great Pains with him. The Boy says he will write to you. It has left off all his crying fits, & I believe is now quite reconciled to his situation. In your Library at Jesus you have a Copy of Geoffrey of Monmouth's *British*

¹ See letter from Warton to Price, Sept. 30, 1774, in Mant's edition of Warton's *Poetical Works with a Memoir*, 2. vols. London 1802. I, lxxiv.

² Where his brother, Joseph, was master of the college.

³ Mant was a pupil of Joseph Warton at Winchester, and matriculated at Trinity College, Oxford, in 1793.

⁴ It was not published, however, until 1774.

⁵ Robert Meyrick Humphreys, a young Welsh lad of thirteen, from Price's county, Denbigh, who was 'first choice' after the two 'founder's kin' in the election for the year 1772, and who matriculated at Jesus College, Oxford, in 1778. Mr. Herbert Chitty, the Bursar and Secretary of Winchester College, kindly showed me the Register of Scholars of the College records at Winchester.

⁶ George Isaac Huntingford, at that time assistant master of Winchester College; he was subsequently bishop of Gloucester and of Hereford.

Original. I wish you would look whether it appears to be of great antiquity; for it is pretended that it is the very copy from which Geoffrey made his Latin translation. I think you & I examined it formerly, & I believe the edges of the leaves are cut too close. Pray compare and find out (take notice I am not sending you on a Search into that vile county *South-Wales*) whether or no there is not a 'Squire Davies' at Llanerk in Denbighshire, who has a very curious Library of Manuscripts; in which, as I am informed, there is a Copy of Geoffrey's original in the handwriting of Guttyn Owen a Welsh bard of 1470. By the way, Hall² I think showed me in the Bodleian some Notes of the tunes of the Welsh Bards when they played for the silver Harp. Ask him about this. The trouble I am giving you put me in mind of antiquarian Gough,³ who called here last Thursday, but I was out at Dinner with the Bishop of St. Asaph.⁴ What News or Nonsense have you stirring in Oxford? Are you at Northleigh⁵ or in Jesus Common Room? Write to me, I am, Dear Price, yrs. Sincerely,

T. WARTON.

Winton, Aug. 16, 1773.

To

The Reverend Mr. John Price
Bodleian Librarian
at Jesus College
Oxford

Two letters to George Steevens are typical of Warton's varied interests in literary history, and reflect his own literary pursuits. The first was written in 1782, the year in which Warton contributed to the Rowley controversy a pamphlet⁶ setting forth in greater detail the belief in their modernity, which he had been the first scholar definitely to assert.⁷ His correspondent, best known as a

¹ Probably a descendant of Robert Davies (1684-1728) a Welsh antiquary of Llanarch who had a valuable collection of Welsh MS. John Davies, son of another Robert Davies of Llanarch, Denbighshire, matriculated at Brasenose College in 1756, aged 16. Foster, *Alumni Oxonienses*, II, 348.

² Probably John Hall, fellow of Magdalen, who had a fine library. Foster, *Alumni Oxon.* II, 588, and Nichols, *Lit. Anec.* III, 656.

³ Richard Gough, in this year, began his extensive labours in preparation of an edition of Camden's 'Britannia,' which he published seventeen years later.

⁴ Jonathan Shipley. Foster, *Alum. Oxon.*, IV, 1289.

⁵ Price was curate of Northleigh from 1766 to 1773.

⁶ 'An Enquiry into the Authenticity of the Poems attributed to Thomas Rowley, in which the arguments of the Dean of Exeter and Mr. Bryant are examined.' London, 1782.

⁷ In the 'History of English Poetry,' vol. II. Chap. VIII, and Emendations. 1778.

Shakespearian commentator, embittered the Chatterton quarrel with personal satire,¹ but made no important contribution to it after he became convinced that the poems were forgeries.² The second letter was written seven years later, when Warton had practically abandoned the history of poetry and was engaged on a second and corrected edition of Milton's minor poems, with the intention of adding to it a companion volume of the 'Paradise Regained' and 'Samson Agonistes'.³

Montague d/2. fol. 48.

Dear Sir

I am greatly obliged to you for your Information about the Author of the quarto Pamphlet⁴ written against me in two Letters, the first dated at Emmanuel College, the second at Hampstead. What a universal Caviller and Corrector! But surely, whatever may be done with a previous and separate piece of criticism, no bookseller will be found absurd enough to contract for a new Edition of Shakespeare after your's.⁵ I could disprove most of his objections were it a matter of any Consequence. To speak to one here, Dr. Farmer⁶ suggested to me the Calculation concerning the *Gesta Alexandri* printed by Corsellis, showing that the (MS. burnt) was completed at Priss on a Sunday.⁷ I (MS. burnt) told the Pamphlet⁸ makes some way at C(MS. burnt)ge, under the

¹ See 'Gent. Mag.' 1782, pp. 276, 288 and 'Notes and Queries,' 2nd ser. X, 282-3.

² Steevens assisted Tyrwhitt in the preparation of his edition of the poems, 1777, when both the editors believed in their authenticity. Tyrwhitt added the appendix to prove that they were not genuine to the third edition in 1778. See Nichols's Literary Illustrations I, 158, and Literary Anecdotes IX, 530, and Walpole's Letters, Toynbee ed., X, 263, 291.

³ Apparently Warton had done a large part of the work for this second volume, and had removed some notes from the first volume in order to insert them in the second. See Mant's biography of Warton prefixed to his edition of Warton's poems. Vol. I, p. xci.

⁴ Ritson's 'Observations on the three first volumes of the history of English Poetry in a letter to the author.' 4° London, 1782, an unjustifiably severe attack on Warton's history.

⁵ In April, 1783, Steevens wrote to Warton, 'No less than six editions of Shakespeare (including Capell's notes, with Collins' prolegomena) are now in the mashtub.' Woolf's Memoirs of Joseph Warton, p. 398.

⁶ Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, a scholar and antiquary of considerable reputation. His only important published work was 'An Essay on the Learning of Shakespeare.' 1767.

⁷ History of English Poetry, 1st. ed. II, 8 n. h.

⁸ 'An Essay on the Evidence . . . relating to the Poems attributed to Rowley . . . by Thomas James Mathias.' 1783.

Auspices of Dr. Glyn(-)e.¹ But it (MS. burnt) is too heavy to move much. Wh(MS. burnt)ay, Dean Milles² was here in (MS. burnt), for a week. I found on my Table on my Return hither, a present of Ritson's Quarto 'with Compliments from the Author.' We will have your new Rowley Anecdotes when we meet in town after Xmas.

I am, Dear Sir, your most faithful humble servant,

Oxon, Nov. 8, 1782.

T. WARTON.

To George Steevens Esq³

At Hampstead Heath

Hampstead

Middlesex

Eng. Misc. C 1 fol. 86.

Dear Sir

You give me a most tempting Invitation to Cambridge. I am sorry it is out of my power to accept so much kindness—my engagements for visits and parties in September have been long ago formed. The Trinity manuscript⁴ will not be wanted till we arrive at the end of the present volume; I think with you, that I must [be] the Transcriber; and I will endeavour to arrange the matter so as to visit Cambridge at Christmas next, and to do the Business. My first volume,⁵ with many considerable alterations and accessions, is quite ready for Press; and the Copy of the second is in great forwardness, so that I believe I shall be out by next April.

I see that Milton's *L'Allegro* and *Il Penseroso* crept into Dryden's Miscellanies (vol. 1) edit. 1716, 4th edit. I am informed that Fenton superintended that edition. I should be glad to know the history of the progress of that Miscellany and what new Insertions were successively made. I am almost sure that those two poems were not in the earlier editions. Could Mr. Reed edify me in this point? Any hints you could gather from Dr. Farmer for my

¹ Dr. Robert Glynn, fellow of King's College, Cambridge, and enthusiastic Chattertonian. He became the owner of the original Chatterton forgeries before the death of Barrett in 1789 and bequeathed them to the British Museum.

² Jeremiah Milles, Dean of Exeter, who edited the Rowley Poems in 1782 and maintained their antiquity.

³ In the catalogue of MSS. at the Bodleian this letter is grouped with two others as to antiquarian Gough. Although it has been somewhat damaged by fire and mended by pasting on to another sheet, it is easy to read through it the address to Steevens.

⁴ The Milton autograph manuscript (Trinity, Western MSS. No. 583). It contains 'Comus,' 'Lycidas,' and other shorter poems. A description of it with many variant readings from it forms an appendix at the end of Warton's second edition of Milton. 1791, pp. 578-590.

⁵ The second edition of the first and only published volume of Warton's Milton. No doubt the publication of the second edition, here described as ready, was delayed that it might appear simultaneously with the intended second volume.

Notes would be highly acceptable. I wrote to Mr. Reed some months ago about *Editions of Milton's Poems*, but have not yet had the favour of an Answer. Dr. Farmer perhaps has got a thing called the *Cyprian Academy* by Robert Baron 1647, 12mo.¹ This author has pillaged very long passages from *Comus*,² &c. I have the Book. We have one, and but one, edition of Googe's *Palingenius*³ in the Bodleian. I am, Dear Sir, very faithfully yours,

Southampton, July 27th, 1789.

T. WARTON.

P. S. I am just now very loco-motive, but a Letter is sure to find me at Dr. Warton's, Winchester.

George Steevens Esq
At Hampstead-Heath
Hampstead
Middlesex.

Closely connected in subject with the last letter to Steevens, although before it in point of time, are two letters to Isaac Reed whom Warton has, by a very singular error, addressed as *John* Reed. These letters, however, were written while Warton was preparing the *first* edition of Milton's minor poems, and represent his search for the edition of Randolph with *Comus* annexed which was mentioned by Henry Wootton in a letter to the poet.⁴ Warton arrived at a conclusion which was borne out by his own experience of old English books, that the combination was made by the *binder*, and that they were not published together.⁵

Montague d. 2. fol. 51.

Sir

I should esteem it a great favour if you could lend me T. Randolph's Poems, printed at Oxford in 1637,⁶ not 1640, which is the second edition. Please

¹ The size of the volume must be an error; both the British Museum and Bodleian catalogues describe the 1647 edition of the 'Cyprian Academy' as an 8° vol.

² Warton was the first to point out Baron's extensive plagiarisms of Milton. 2nd. Ed. Milton, 1791, pp. 403-7.

³ Probably the edition of 1588, which is still there. But Warton gives a minute description of the first complete edition, 1565, in his History, 1st ed., III, 449-50, and refers to the Stationer's Register for the 1560 edition, which he supposed the original, III, 449, w.

⁴ See Warton's Milton, ed. 1791, pp. 119-121.

⁵ See Letter to Malone, Mar. 19, 1785.

⁶ Warton corrected this date to 1638 in his edition of Milton, p. 119.

to send it by one of the Oxford Coaches. I am too sensible how little I deserve such Favours, after keeping your Walpole's letter so long.

I am, Sir, your most obedient

humble servant

Trin. Coll. Oxon.

T. WARTON.

April 13, 1783.

To John [Isaac] Reed, Esq.

at Staple-Inn

London.

Montague d. 2 fol. 54.

Mr. Warton presents Comps. & many thanks to Mr. Reed—you were properly right in guessing why I wished to see this Book. I have been (with you) long searching for *Comus* at the end of this volume of Randolph. I shall make use (with due acknowledgement) of what you say about the *Old Wives Tale & Comus*, in your *Bibl. Dramatica*.¹ If you could communicate anything more on that Point, deserving notice, it would be most highly acceptable. I think Mr. Bowle² (Wilts) told me he saw a *Randolph*, with *Comus* annexed. I shall see him soon and will inquire, I hope with success. You may command me for anything at Oxford.

Trin. Coll. Oxon.

April 19th, 1783.

To John [Isaac] Reed Esq

Staple-inn

The next group of letters touches Warton's career as a clergyman of the Church of England, an aspect of his activity now almost altogether overlooked. Warton had easily fallen in with his father's plan for him of entering the church as the most honourable career open to a man of his family and parts, but neither his ambitions nor his abilities lay in the direction of clerical work. Although he seems to have been unusually faithful³ in those days of fox-hunting, port-drinking, and even more negligent parsons,

¹ 'Biographia Dramatica' 1782, II, 441, (ed. 1812, III, 97) cited by Warton, p. 135.

² John Bowle (1725-1788), the Spanish scholar, editor of 'Don Quixote,' and vicar of Idmiston, Wilts, had a valuable library of old English books. He contributed notes to Steevens's edition of Shakespeare, and to Warton's History. Nichols: Lit. Anecdotes, VI, 183 note. He also contributed notes for Warton's edition of Milton. Two letters from Bowle to Warton on the subject of 'Comus,' April 22, and May 18, 1783, are printed in Wooll's Memoirs of Joseph Warton, pp. 399-402.

³ Chalmers says, quoting Baldwin's Literary Journal, 1803, that Warton was long remembered by the people of Woodstock as one of the best clergymen who ever officiated there. XVIII, 84.

he neither sought nor gained advancement in the church. His only preferments were retired village churches, the curacy of Woodstock¹ and the small living of Kiddington,² in the vicinity of Oxford, which had at least the merit of not interrupting his residence there, nor interfering much with his literary pursuits. In spite, however, of his numerous other interests, and although he had never served his charges during the long vacations, which he habitually spent with his brother at Winchester, Warton seems to have been slow to avail himself of the customary assistance of a regular curate. The following letters to William Mavor,³ a young Scotch schoolmaster at Woodstock who had taken orders and who served the parish of Kiddington for some time before he became Warton's 'perpetual curate' there, were written not many years before Warton's death, when he was apparently relinquishing his parochial work.

Montague d. 18. f. 136.

Dear Sir

I beg the favour of you to continue your services for me at Kiddington till the second Sunday of February next, inclusive. After that time, if I should want a *perpetual* Curate at Kiddington (which I believe will be the case, and of which I will give you due Notice) I should wish to appoint *you* above all others. But I beg you to say nothing (at present) to the Family at Kiddington of my thoughts of a *perpetual* Curate. I shall see Mr. Gore very soon, which you may tell him; and that I have engaged you to attend the Church to the 2d Sunday in February, as above. If Bennet⁴ could call next Saturday, with your Account up to last Sunday, I will return the money by Him.

Dear Sir, your most obedient

Servt

T. WARTON.

¹ From April 1755 to April 1774 says Chalmers. The parish register for Woodstock does not show when Warton was appointed curate there, but there are records of marriages performed by him, 1 March, 1767 and 10 February, 1771.

² Modern Kidlington. This living was given Warton by George Henry, Earl of Lichfield, the Chancellor of the University, October 22, 1771. See Warton's 'History of Kiddington,' 2nd ed. 1783, p. 12. Two other small livings are ascribed to Warton, the vicarage of Shalfeld, Wilts., and Hill Farance, Somerset, the gift of his college. See Anderson's *British Poets*, XI, 1054, and Mant, lxxxii.

³ See Dict. Nat. Biog. and Notes and Queries, 3rd. Ser. XII, 505 and 5th. Ser. IV, 45. Mavor's connection with Warton seems not to have been noticed hitherto.

⁴ The parish clerk at Woodstock, a psalmodist of some local reputation-father of John Bennet, journeyman shoemaker and small poet, who was en-

P. S. Please to tell Mr. Gore, that he would have seen me before, but that I have been hindered by Illness, and by business which could not be deferred. Oxon, Nov. 26, 1787.

Rev'd Mr. Mavor
At the Academy
At Woodstock
Oxfordshire.

Montague d. 18 f. 135.

Dear Sir

The Curacy of Kiddington is your's for the next twelve-months, and most probably will be so for a much longer time, as I have no thought at present of ever serving it myself. I presume you have no objection to the old Terms of Half a Guinea a Sunday. In case of a Burial on week days (a very rare Case) you will please to charge me a (MS. torn)[cro]wn each time. Fees for a Marriage; &c., are to be your own. You will please to begin on next Sunday. Whenever you wish to settle, that business shall immediately be done.

I am, Dear Sir, your very faithful
humble servant

T. WARTON.

Oxon, Jan. 28th, 1788.

Rev'd Mr. Mavor
at the Academy
Woodstock
Oxfordshire

The last and largest group of letters cover the period from the publication of the third and last volume of the history of poetry to Warton's death (1781-1790), and partly reflect the variety of his interests during that period when the public was still expecting the completion of a work which was repeatedly promised.¹ Throughout his life Warton showed that typically 'romantic' characteristic of planning more work than it was possible to execute and of beginning new projects before the old were or could be completed. Very soon after the publication of the third volume of the history Warton must have begun the edition of Milton, which em-

couraged by Warton. Young Bennet published a small volume of 'Poems on Several Occasions' which received favourable notice in the *Critical Review*, June, 1774, XXXVII, 473.

¹ T. Warton to Price, Oct. 13, 1781. 'I have lately been working hard; have made some progress in my fourth volume.' Mant, lxxviii. Prince to Gough, Aug. 4, 1783, 'Mr. Warton's History of English Poetry will be at press again at Michaelmas Next.' Lit. Anec. III, 696. In the edition of Milton, 1785, the speedy publication of the 4th volume of the history was announced.

bodied material that he had been all his life collecting, part of which had appeared in the *Observations on the Fairy Queen* and part of which must have been intended for the last volume of his history. In 1785, the year in which his *Milton* was published, Warton was elected Camden Professor of History at Oxford and poet laureate. The former entailed no labour since he delivered no lectures after the first,¹ and the latter called for only a few pretty perfunctory odes; the *Milton* was fairly engrossing. At this time, as always, Warton was intensely interested in the literary labours of his friends, and as eager to help them as he was gracious in acknowledging their contributions to his own work. The letters to Malone are the record of this friendly literary give and take.

Warton's friendship with Malone was probably, at the beginning of their correspondence, fairly recent, for Malone, who was an Irish lawyer did not go to London to live until 1777. He rapidly became acquainted, however, with the most distinguished literary men, and became a member of the Literary Club in the same year that Warton did, 1782. From the time he settled in London he devoted himself largely to Shakespeare criticism, first as the ally and later as the rival of Steevens. His first publication was 'An Attempt to ascertain the Order in which the Plays of Shakespeare were written,' 1778, and this was followed by two supplements to Johnson's edition (1780 and 1783). In 1783 he announced and began work on his own edition of Shakespeare which appeared seven years later. It was for this work that Warton contributed the hints contained in the letters which follow.

Sir

I have searched in vain for Marlowe's *Dido*² with the *Elegy* among Tanner's Books³ which are squeezed into a most incommodious room, covered with dust, unclassified, and without a catalogue. Such is the confused and impracticable State of this Collection, that I have often been unable to find a book a second time which I have seen not half a year before. In the mean time there is much

¹ Mant, lxxxiv.

² 'The Tragedy of Dido,' 1594, by Marlowe and Nashe. Warton ascribed the *elegy* which was prefixed to it to Nashe. *Hist. Eng. Poetry*, 1st ed. III, 435, q. There is a copy in the Bodleian, but none in the British Museum.

³ Thomas Tanner (d. 1735) bishop of St. Asaph, antiquarian, bequeathed his valuable collection of books and manuscripts to the Bodleian. The manuscripts were arranged and catalogued by Thos. Toynbee of Balliol, about 1740-41. Madan, *Catalogue of Western MSS.* III, 81.

reason to suspect, that the Bishop's entire Study never came to the University. I am obliged to you for the Conjecture about *Tamburlain*.¹ I have pointed out to Mr. Downes a thin folio of manuscript miscellaneous poems, in which I believe are the pieces you wish him to transcribe. There is a good, I mean more correct Copy of Donne's Epitaph on Shakespeare.² And one or two pieces (a Sonnet & an Epitaph) signed W. *Shakespeare*. This Manuscript is about the time of Charles the First.³ If anything should occur concerning Dido and the Elegy I will take care to send it. My friend Mr. Price of the Bodleian talks of a Catalogue to Tanner's Books, but I fear it is at a distance. The Bodleian Copy of the Life of Scanderbeg⁴ has Spenser's Sonnet, and not a bad one.

I am, Sir, with great Respect,

your most faithfull

Trin. Coll. Oxon.

humble Servant

Jun. 22d, 1781.

T. WARTON.

To Edmond Malone, Esq

Queen Anne's Street East

London

Trin. Coll. Oxon.

Mar. 19, 1785.

Dear Sir

By a coach of next Thursday you will receive the *Venus and Adonis*.⁵ It is bound up with many coeval small poets, the whole making a Dutch-built but dwarfish volume. Had I seen your Advertisement, I should have answered it immediately. Wright's *Preface*⁶ shall also be sent with Shakespeare's Poem. Our friend Dr. Farmer is too much in luck. I cannot decypher B. M.

¹ I do not find that Warton made any use of this 'conjecture,' but he acknowledges other suggestions about Marlowe's work received from Malone. Hist. Eng. Poetry, III, 413, 434-5.

² The famous poem by William Basse printed as Donne's in the first collected edition of the latter's poems, 1633.

³ Rawlinson MS. 14652 (now Rawl. poet. 161, Madan's Catalogue III, 317) written about 1640, in which 'Shakespeare's Epitaph' appears fol. 13. It is not clear whether Warton or Malone first discovered the real authorship of the poem. Malone also saw another MS. which belonged to antiquary Brander, in which the poem appears as by Basse. Ed. Shakespeare, 1790, I, 197.

⁴ The sonnet by Spenser beginning 'Wherefore doth vaine Antiquitie so vaunt' appeared as a dedicatory poem to 'The Historie of George Castriot, surnamed Scanderbeg, king of Albanie; translated out of French (by Lavandin) into English by Z. I.' 4^o Lond. 1596.

⁵ The third edition, 1596, called the second by Malone in acknowledging the loan in the preface to his edition of Shakespeare, I, lxii.

⁶ Wright, James (1643-1713) 'Historia Histrionica: an Historical Account of the English Stage, shewing the Ancient Use, Improvement, and Perfection of Dramatick Representations in this Nation.' London, 1699, reprinted as preface to vol. XI of Dodsley's 'Old English Plays,' 1744.

I once saw Shakespeare's Sonnets, 1599,¹ in the hands of Mr. Thompson² of Queen's Oxon, a curious collector. I think Tom Davies³ bought his Books. I picked up my *Venus and Adonis* in a petty shop at Salisbury,⁴ where books, bacon, red-herring, and old iron were exposed to sale. If you could lend me B. Googe's 'Eglogs, epytaphes and Sonnets,' 8vo, 1563⁵ I shall be much obliged to you. I once had them. In my little volume (to be sent next Thursday) you will find the first edition of (Daniel's) "Tragedie of Cleopatra," 1594. See Mr. Steevens's Note, last edit. *Shakesp.* vol viii. p. 124. I have access to the Countess of Pembroke's 'Tragedie of Antonie,' 1595. 8vo. I have seen Lowin's⁶ picture:—Half length, large as life, a spreading band, dark cloaths, with a hand lifted up seemingly in the attitude of speaking. I can conceive it to be a likeness, for there is much comic character in the countenance. A small red beard. Picture marked on one side of head, 'Ætat. 64, A. D. 1640' on the staircase of Ashmole's Museum. Your commands will always be executed with the greatest pleasure, by, Dear Sir,

Your most

faithful humble servant

To Edmond Malone Esq.

Queen Anne's Street East,
London.

T. WARTON.

Oxon, March 30th., 1785.

Dear Sir

The Copy of Wright's *Country Conversations*⁷ which I have seen is in the Bodleian library. But I will procure a transcript of that part intitled *of the Modern Comedies*. Henry Chettle's *Kind Hart Dreame*, a thin quarto blacklettered, is at Winchester: but I shall be there the first week in May, and will send it

¹ Surely an error in date. The earliest known edition of the sonnets is 1609, 'Neuer before Imprinted.'

² William Thompson (1712?-1766?) poet and Spenserian imitator. His library was sold by Thomas Davies about 1768.

³ The bookseller who introduced Johnson and Boswell. He published in 1785 his *Dramatic Miscellanies*, consisting of critical observations on several plays of Shakespeare, etc.

⁴ On one of his vacation rambles among architectural ruins, I suppose, in the course of which he filled several copy-books with notes which he intended to embody in a history of Gothic architecture.

⁵ Only three copies are now known to exist, and they are described as 12mo. And Warton so describes this one in his *History*, III, 450, Note, y.

⁶ John Lowin, an actor who played with Shakespeare, Burbage, etc., mentioned in the 1623 folio. His portrait is in the Ashmolean Museum, and was engraved, in accordance with the account in these letters, for Malone's edition of Shakespeare. Vol. I, pt. II, p. 205.

⁷ James Wright, *Country Conversations: Being an Account of some Discourses that happen'd in a visit to the Country last Summer on Divers Subjects, chiefly of the 'Modern Comedies,' etc.* London, 1694, 8°.

you. Your new arrangement of Shakespeare's plays, I wish to see at your leisure. I have returned Milton's *Mask* to Mr. Read.¹ A good engraving of old Lowin will be a most proper and interesting ornament of your new Edition. The Custos of the Ashmolean is absent at present; but I fear, from the rules of the place, he cannot permit the Picture to be sent to Town. However, when he returns, I will make the strongest application to him for permission. He is Dr. Sheffield, Provost of Worcester College. In case we should not succeed in getting the picture to town, you have no other way but to send an engraver hither to take a Copy, which he might do in one of the Apartments, or *Studios* of the Museum. But I will talk the matter over thoroughly with Dr. Sheffield, and send you the result in a few days. I am sure it will make an excellent head. I will also enquire how the picture came there. I find one John Lowin (perhaps his relation) ejected from Christ-Church Oxon, in 1648, for his loyalty, by Cromwell's reforming Visitors.² Here is an edition of *Venus and Adonis* 12 mo., 1602. Perhaps a mere repetition of 1600. This, if you wish it, I will examine.

I am, Dear Sir, Your most
Faithful humble servant.

To
Edmond Malone Esq.
Queen Anne's Street East
London

T. WARTON.

Dear Sir

Excuse more last words. A notice relating to the subject of Shakespeare's pictures has been overlooked. (See Shew, (?) John J. vol. i. p. 213 seq.)

Dryden has an Epistle to Sir Godfrey Kneller, (*Epistles* in his *Orig. Poems* Glasg. vol. ii. 133) in which are these lines,

Shakespear, Thy Gift, I place before my sight,
With reverence look on his majestic face etc.

In the margin is Dryden's Note 'Shakespear's picture drawn by Sir Godfrey Kneller and given to the author.' From what picture of Shakespeare did Kneller make this copy?³ And where is Kneller's Copy? The Poem was written (as appears by the title) while Kneller was serjeant painter to King William.

¹ See letters to Reed.

² One of Warton's typical sarcastic references to Cromwell, whose zeal in demolishing specimens of Gothic ecclesiastical architecture he particularly abhorred.

³ In 1693 Sir Godfrey Kneller made a copy of the Chandos portrait as a gift for Dryden. D. N. B. Malone had no more information than Warton was able to give him. Ed. Shakespeare (1821, II, 513).

An inquiry into this matter might ascertain some points now but very imperfectly known. I am, Dr Sir, very faithfully yours.

T. WARTON.

Trin. Coll. Oxon.

May 27th, 1785.

To

Edmond Malone Esq.

Queen Anne's Street East

London

Dear Sir

I am at a friend's house in Hampshire with a small study of old fashioned Books. Here I find 'A Description of the Queens (Elizabeth) Entertainment in Progresse at Lord Hartford's at Elmtham in Hantshire, 1591. 4to. Lond. Bl. Lett.¹ I have seen it before, but never inspected it carefully till now. Her Majesty, having been pestered a whole Afternoon with Speeches in verse from the Three Graces, Sylvanus, Wood Nymphs & Water Nymphs, is at length addressed by the Fairy Queen, who presents her Majesty with a chaplet. 'Given me by Auberon (Oberon) the fairie King.' I leave the Inferences, if any, to you. Lord Hartford's poet on this occasion was not a bad one, and I have seen some of the Copies in the Miscellanies of the times. Dear Sir, your most faithfull humble servant.

T. WARTON.

Odiham, Hants.

Jul. 29, 1787 (9?). Head-Quarters for a month at Winchester.

To Edmond Malone Esq.

Queen Anne's Street East

London

Dear Sir

I left Oxford more than a month ago, and am now at the House of a Relation near Portsmouth, where I am this moment favoured with your Letter. I am exceedingly sorry to be so far from Oxford, as to be hindered from accommodating you immediately with the *Venus and Adonis*.² If I should be at Oxford within three weeks, I will send it. Upon Recollection, Dr. Farmer has a Copy, who will undoubtedly lend it with pleasure. You flatter me much in your opinion of my last Ode.³ My Brother is here, and sends his best Compliments. He wishes to know if Mr. Boswell ever received from him, two of Dr.

¹ The honourable Entertainement gieven to the Queenes Maiestie in Progresse, at Elvetham in Hampshire, by the right Honorable the Earle of Hertford, 1591. Lond. 1591. 4^o.

² See letter to Malone, March 19, 1785.

³ 'On his Majesty's Birth-day, June 4th, 1787.'

Johnson's Letters about the Adventurer.¹ Thank you for your hint about the Megarion. I am, Dear Sir,

very sincerely yours.

T. WARTON.

Purbrook-Park

Near Portsmouth, Jul. 29th, 1787.

Edmond Malone, Esq

Queen Anne's Street

East

London.

Purbrook, Aug. 17th, 1787.

Dear Sir,

I am much obliged to you for the *Southampton Memoirs*,² which are eurious, and were much wanted. I will look into Titchfield Church: ifi the meantime I answer such of your Queries as I can at present. Titchfield is a very considerable village, almost approaching to the appearance of a little country town: a parish of itself. Mr. Delmé³ never lived at the House. The distance from thence to Beaulieu (crossing Southampton Water) cannot be more than ten or eleven miles. Beaulieu Abbey was granted to Thomas Wriothesley,⁴ the first Baron, as was Titchfield: he had other large grants of Abbey Land in Hampshire. At Beaulieu there are fine monastic remains: the Abbot's Hall is turned into the Parish Church. An old mansion house is formed out of the abbey buildings, perhaps by the said *Thomas*. I could be more particular, if you should think it necessary. For the evidence of the Grant of Beaulieu co Baron Thomas, see Tanner's *Notitia Monastica* under *Hampshire* edit. folio. The Earls of Southampton had an old House at Southampton, still remaining with most of its old Work about it, called Bugle-Hall, which I think was built by baron Thomas; but as I am frequently at Southampton, I could give you the fullest intelligence about this house if wanted. Beaulieu is in the New Forest, near the shore of South-ton water, not far from Calshot-Castle. Look in Camden's map of *Hampshire*. I will write from Winchester next week with the Papers.

Many thanks for the hints for Milton. I think with you, that the Italian poetry made this great change with the story of *Venus and Adonis*. Nothing

¹ One of these written March 8, 1753, was printed in Boswell's Life of Johnson, Hill edition, I, 253.

² Probably substantially the same as the 'Memoirs of Henry Wriothesley, the Third Earl of Southampton,' published in Malone's Shakespeare. Warton seems to have contributed data for the memoir as it finally appeared. Boswell includes a letter from Warton to Malone which, though undated, seems posterior to the one here printed. See Boswell's edition of Malone's Shakespeare, 1821, XX, 433-5.

³ Peter Delmé was the owner of Lord Southampton's estate at Titchfield. Malone's Shakespeare, X, 7.

⁴ The grandfather of Henry Wriothesley, Shakespeare's patron.

occurs to me at present about it: but I will rummage when I gett to Oxford, if the Jaws of your Appendix¹ should remain open. What says Marino's voluminous Poem² on the subject? I know he is posteriour, but he might be examined. See if I have said any thing in the 30th Idyllium of Theocritus. Elmsley,³ and Tom Payne,⁴ have the book. All about Constable must unavoidably be deferred. I think I have something about your Earl Henry in the Titchfield Paper at Winchester. I just now learn, that Mr. Delmé's Titchfield Estate is 4000 £ p. annum.

Dear Sir, very faithfully yours,

T. WARTON.

P. S. Letters will find me at Winchester for a month or more.

To Edmond Malone Esq
Queen Anne's Street
East
London

Dear Sir

I have been returned to Oxford three or four Days, but could not write till I had seen the Provost of Worcester College, Dr Sheffield, who is Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum.

He is now come, and is willing to give you all the service in his Power with regard to Lowin's Portrait. As the Picture cannot be taken out of the Building, your artist must work in some of the Apartments of the Museum, and only from Eleven to Two. But I am in hopes of getting a greater Indulgence of Time. If he will call on me (whenever he arrives) in a morning between Nine and Eleven, I will take care to conduct him to Dr Sheffield, and to *plant* him in the Museum. Do you want my *little* Volume? I think the Sonnets by H. C. are Constable's. But the Initials H. C. sometimes mean Henry Chettle, a Poetaster of those Times, of whom I have spoken in my 3d. Volume⁵ And see Beauclerc's Catalogue.⁶

I am, Dear Sir, very faithfully yours.

Oxon. 27th. Oct. 1787.

T. WARTON.

Edmond Malone Esq
Queen Anne's Street East
London

¹ To the edition of Shakespeare which Malone had been preparing since 1783 and which appeared soon after Warton's death. (1790). Malone's Preface.

² Giambattista Marino (1569-1625) published a long poem, 'Adone' in 1623. See Warton's Milton, 2nd. edition, p. 537-9 note.

³ Peter Elmsley a prominent bookseller who belonged to the same group as Cadell and Dodsley.

⁴ 'Honest Tom Payne' whose bookshop, called the Literary Coffee-House, was frequented by Malone and Steevens among many others.

⁵ III, 290—2 note C.

⁶ 'Bibliotheca Beauclerkiana; auction catalogue of his large and valuable library.' Lond. 1781. Topham Beauclerk was a student at Trinity and a friend of Warton's.

Dear Sir

We have not a single edition of Fleckno's *Essays*¹ in the Bodleian. If the Edition you want is not to be found, you can do nothing but print your suspicions. But in searching, I fell upon one R. Flecknoe's *Epigrams*, written from 1635 to 1670, in four or five Books; one of which is called *Theatrical*, and which I went through with some Curiosity, but nothing occurred of any value or consequence. I fear I have nothing about old Scenery but what has already been thrown out in my *H. of English Poetry*.² Inigo Jones was certainly a great Improver in this business, and did much, as you know, in Jonson's *Masques*.

I am, Dear Sir, most faithfully yours,

Oxon. May 14th, 1789.

T. WARTON.

Edmond Malone Esq

Queen Anne's Street East
London

Dear Sir

I will examine Wood's Papers³ when I go to Oxford, but I think I told you all I found in them. Wood talked to his sister in a splenetic fit: you will find him in other places talking in high praise of poetry, though not always of poets. Beeston (whom I mention from Aubrey)⁴ was Dr. H. Beeston, Warden of New College.⁵ For Mr How (whom I mention as telling Aubrey something about Shakespeare) see my *Second* Edition of the Life of Sir T. Pope, at the end of the Preface.⁶ The *Bishops* lived at Brayles in Warwickshire, not far from Stratford. See Wood's *Ath. Oxon.* i. f pp. 488, 466, 727. edit. 1721. I have seen many of Basse's Poems, and have large Notices about him and them at Oxford. In my volume of Milton, you will see a defence of Aubrey's character, at pp. 432, 433.⁷ Not having my *Hist. of Engl. Poetry* here, I cannot at present speak about the 'Judicious French Writer.'⁸ I will examine Plutarch for the play you mention. I am deep in my Milton,⁹ and go to press with that work the

¹ No edition of *Essays* by Flecknoe is mentioned in either the Bodleian or British Museum catalogues. Perhaps Malone meant to inquire for the 'Short Discourse of the English Stage' attached to 'Love's Kingdom,' 1664, which is referred to in Malone's Shakespeare, I, pt. II, 58, note.

² See first edition II, 398-401, III, 327. Malone's Account of the Stage is full of quotations from Warton's History.

³ Anthony Wood's books and papers were bequeathed to the Ashmolean Museum. (They passed to the Bodleian in 1858.)

⁴ In the Life of Bathurst, p. 154.

⁵ And Master of Winchester. But see letter of 16 Dec. 1789.

⁶ 1780, p. xiii note f, from which quotations are made by Malone ed. Shakespeare, I, II, 176-7.

⁷ Second edition, 1791, p. 422.

⁸ Probably M. du Tilliot, author of 'Memoirs pour servir à l'histoire de la Fete de Foux,' 1741. Hist. Eng. Poetry, II, 368 and 367 note i.

⁹ The second edition already mentioned.

7th. of November. You shall have a full and exact Manuscript from Aubrey, with whom Wood was at variance. I find Mr Steevens meditates a new Shakespeare.¹
I am, Dear Sir, very faithfully yours.

T. WARTON.

Winton, Sept. 30th, 1789.
Edmond Malone Esq
Queen Anne's Street East
London

William Basse.

I have printed a commendatory Poem to Basse in my *Life* of Dr. Bathurst, p. 288. I think I saw his Poems* in Mr Bowle's² study at Idminstone. He has a Poem in the *Annalia Dubrensis* or *Cotswold Games*.³ Something about him is in *Peirce's Ballads*, see Vol. iii. in the Additions of the Edition.

Aubrey's M. S. Lives

Dr Farmer is mistaken.⁴ Aubrey's intelligence from *Beeston* was about *Spenser* not *Shakespeare*. See *Life of Bathurst*, p. 154. That Wood used those Lives for his *Athenæ*, see *ibid* p. 153. Many of Wood's queries to Aubrey, about anecdotes, etc, appear in the Margin. How they came to the Ashmolean I know not: they are there with other papers of Aubrey.

Dear Sir, You shall have B. Jonson's Life soon. University Elections for the 2 last days have thrown everything into confusion.

Dear Sir, Very faithfully your's.

Oxon. 21st. Nov. 1789.

T. WARTON.

(*The Sword and Buckler etc. 1602.

Mr Bowle's copy is now in my collection: 1802. [Malone's note])

P. S. We are at press most rapidly with *Milton*.

Edmond Malone Esq
Queen Anne's Street
East
London

¹ Steevens's edition appeared in 1793 in 15 vols.

² See second letter to Reed and note. Bowle was a pretty close friend of Warton's, and no doubt Warton had seen Basse's poem there. At the sale of Bowle's library in 1790 the book probably passed to Steevens's collection and thence to Malone's. (See Malone's note.) It is therefore the one of the only two extant copies of the 1602 (first) edition of the 'Sword and Buckler' which was described by R. W. Bond, the first collector and editor of Basse's poems. London, 1893, see p. 1. The letter here printed shows that, although Warton knew nothing of Basse in 1761 when he published his *Life of Bathurst*, he deserves some of the credit that Bond gives altogether to Malone for discovering him by publishing his 'Elegy on Shakespeare' in his edition of Shakespeare. See Bond's edition of Basse, p. ix, and Malone's Shakespeare, I, pt. I, 197.

³ Published in 1636.

⁴ In his 'Essay on the Learning of Shakespeare,' 1767. See Malone's Shakespeare I, I, 166 and ed. Boswell, 1821, I, 346, where Farmer misquotes Warton, as indicated in this letter.

Dear Sir

There is such irregularity in opening the Ashmolean, that I have been more than once prevented from making the Transcript,¹ when I had set apart time for that purpose. You shall have it in the course of the week. What I have said about Abraham Wright,² I have had from Seniors of Saint Johns College Oxford many years ago, or from Wood, *Ath. Oxon* ii. 833. Saint John's was a famous College for Play-acting. A good work would be, a History of the *Stage*, (of Plays acted by the Scholars) in the Universities, to be called '*Theatrem Academicum* Or a etc. It might throw light on the History of the London Plays, etc. I avail myself, with many thanks, for your hints to my Milton. *John Wright* died in 1716. Hugh Peters was of Trinity College *Cambridge*.

I am, Dear Sir, very faithfully yours.

T. WARTON.

Oxon. Dec. 6, 1789.

Edmond Malone Esq

Queen Anne's Street

East

London

Dear Sir

I have lately been so much hurried by our College Audit, Milton's Proofs, and other literary Concerns, that I have not yet been able to find the Transcript of Jonson as I promised. But I have inspected Aubrey, in order that I might answer your last; and I find my Transcript of Shakespeare (in the Life of Bathurst)³ is most minutely exact,⁴ as far as the Epitaph which you have in my writing. However, the word *extemporary* or *extempory* I cannot clear, as the last Syllable is confused and abbreviated. Year 18 is unquestionably right. Long Crendon (or Grendon) is in Bucks, about thirteen miles from Oxford. Howe (Aubrey's Contemporary in this College) was an admirable scholar, a poet, and a most worthy character. I think I before referred you (for *Him*) to the end of my Preface of 2d Edition of Sir. T. *Pope's* Life. I give up Beeston as the Warden of N. College;⁵ and now think him (with you) to be the Theatrical man.⁶

¹ Probably the notes on Ben Jonson from the Wood MSS., mentioned in the preceding and following letters.

² In the edition of Milton, 2nd ed. pp. 602-8.

³ p. 154. See also letter of Nov. 21, 1789. Only the first line of the epitaph is printed in the Life of Bathurst. The whole, taken from Malone's papers, and, probably, from Warton's transcript, is printed in Malone's Shakespeare, vol. I, pt. II, p. 176-8.

⁴ It looks as if Warton or the printer may have omitted a line; at any rate, Malone quoting (Warton's transcript from) Aubrey, inserts after 'Stratford,' 'Mr. Combes, an old usurer, was to be buried.' I, II, 177.

⁵ See letter of Sept. 30, 1789.

⁶ Beeston, the theatrical manager, see Malone's Account of the English Stage. Ed. Shakespeare I, pt. II, 239 ff.

You have all about Shakespeare which is in Aubrey. I will find the Jonson soon, and am, Dear Sir, very faithfully yours.

T. WARTON.

Trin. Coll. Oxon.

16th. Dec. 1789.

Edmond Malone Esq

Queen Anne's Street East

London

Dear Sir.

The Inclosed is an accurate Transcript,¹ and preserves all the singularities of writing in the original. The dashes are what Tom Hearne would mark by *sic*. 'Epistle' is for *Ep. Dedicatory*. Dr. Bathurst was born in Northamptonshire, bordering on *Warwickshire*; and intimate with many of Ben's old friends. It is more likely that Ben (being a Westminster Man) went to Trinity at Cambridge, than to Saint John's according to the biographers. Do you wish for any intelligence about the *Hoskin's*, Bishop Skinner and Jack Young? I leave this place on Tuesday, and return 27th Instant. A letter, during that time, will find me at *Edward Gore's Esq at Kiddington near Enstone Oxfordshire*. I hope to be in Town about the 10th of January. I am really ashamed to have kept back this Transcript so long, but I have been overwhelmed with a Variety of business.

I am, Dear Sir,

Very faithfully yours.

T. WARTON.

Trin. Coll. Oxon.

Decemb. 20th, 1789.

Edmond Malone Esq

Queen Anne's Street

East

London

Dear Sir

I returned to Oxford last Sunday, where I found the favour of your Letter. Unluckily this having been a Holiday Week, no access could be had to the Ashmolean. But by the assistance of a Pocket book now at Winchester (which I shall pass through tomorrow in my way to Southampton) I think I can settle many of your Queries about Aubrey. In the meantime see Mr Evelyn's (the great Naturalist) Letter to Aubrey, prefixed to Aubrey's *Surry*, in 5 vols, 8vo. Some other Prolegomena there, may perhaps help you. Evelyn's judgement of Aubrey has great weight. I should have written before, but was daily expecting the opening of the Ashmolean. I stay one week at Southampton (setting out this afternoon) at *Colonel Morgan's Above Bar*. Then to town,

¹ Probably the life of Jonson mentioned before.

Jan. 11th. at Prince of Wale's Coffee-house. I appear in the Papers, not only as an Esquire, but as the author of a New Years Ode which I never wrote.¹

I am Dear Sir very faithfully yours.

T. WARTON.

Oxon. 3rd. Jan. 1789 ²

Edmond Malone Esq

Queen Anne's Street

East

London

Dear Sir

I will immediately write to my Brother to know what he means to give to Dr Johnson's monument, for we shall most probably give alike; and will as soon as possible tell you his Answer.³

I think you need not be scrupulous about making *my Uncle Danvers* some older man (so as to hit on James first.) than I have suggested. In my life of *Sir Thos. Pope*, I have said something of *Danvers*, p. 444, 445. And there is a *Danvers*, and of this College, in Wood's *Life or Diary*. p. 311 Vol. ii. It is not, however, necessary, that the *Uncle Danvers* should be restricted to this College. Nothing occurs in the Aubrey Papers. But I observe in a Letter from Aubrey to Wood, dated 1694, that Aubrey complains, that Wood sent back the MS. *Lives* 40 Leaves short, cutt out, and kept by Wood. You will have *Davenant* soon

I am, Dear Sir, ever faithfully yours.

T. WARTON.

Oxon. Feb. 5th 1790.

Edmond Malone Esq

Queen Anne's Street East

London

CLARISSA RINAKER

University of Illinois

¹ Warton's last New Year's ode was written for the year 1788.

² This letter is dated by Warton 1789 but bears the postmark of JA. 4 1790.

³ Malone was active in promoting subscriptions for Dr Johnson's monument among the members of the Literary Club. Boswell's Johnson, Hill ed. IV, 423.